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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/103,072 06/23/98 TRUCKKAI

C ENVS-220

QM32/0829  
KATHLEEN A. FROST  
STALLMAN & POLLOCK LLP  
121 SPEAR STREET  
SUITE 290  
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94105

EXAMINER

LAM, A  
ART. UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3763  
DATE MAILED:  
08/29/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

<b>Offic Action Summary</b>	Application N .	Applicant(s)
	09/103,072	TRUCKAI ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Ann Y. Lam	3763	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 March 2001 .

2a) This action is **FINAL**.                    2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 5-7,15,17,24, 31 and 34-108 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-4,8-14,16,18-23,25-30,32 and 33 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 5-7,15 and 34-83 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) 5-7,15,17,24,31 and 34-108 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ .

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

#### Attachment(s)

1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 16 .

4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_ .

5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)  Other:

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Election/Restrictions***

Applicant's election with traverse of the method claims, in Paper No. 18 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that search and examination of both method and apparatus claims has already been conducted by the Examiner before the CPA was filed, and that the new claims are dependent on a claim that has been previously allowed. Thus Applicant alleges that it would not unduly burden the PTO to have these claims remain pending in the present case. This is not found persuasive because a CPA requires further search and consideration of all the claims, even if they have been previously searched, considered and allowed. Moreover, the method claims and the apparatus claims are directed to different embodiments of Applicant's invention, and thus a search of the method claims does not require a search in all the same classes and subclasses as would be required for the apparatus claims. The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Furthermore, Applicant elected the method claims in Paper No. 18, but indicated that the method claims are Claims 5-7, 15, and 84-108, see page 2, line 14, of Applicant's response. Examiner would like to point out that this is incorrect, and that the method claims are actually Claims 5-7, 15 and 34-83.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 5-7, 15 and 34-83 are allowed.

**Conclusion**

This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

Claims 17, 24, 31 and 84-108, as being directed to non-elected claims with traverse in Paper number 18, must be canceled by Applicant before the method claims may be allowed.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ann Y. Lam whose telephone number is (703) 306-5560. The examiner can normally be reached on T-F 8-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Seidel can be reached on (703)308-5115. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)305-3590 for regular communications and (703)306-4520 for After Final communications.

A.L.  
August 25, 2001

*ANHTUANT.NGUYEN*  
ANHTUANT.NGUYEN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
8/27/01.